

MARINES GET NAVY CROSSES

Two fallen Marines were awarded Navy Crosses on Friday, Feb. 13, by **Navy Secretary Donald Winter**.

Winter will present the nation's secondhighest award for valor to **Lance Cpl. Jordan Haerter**, of Sag Harbor, NY, and Cpl. Jonathan T. Yale, of Burkeville, VA, during a ceremony at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Va. The Marines, who died last year in Iraq, were assigned to battalions within the 2nd Marine Division, based at Camp Lejeune, NC.

Haerter and Yale have been credited with saving more than 50 fellow Marines

and Iraqi police the morning of April 22, 2008. They were standing post at an entry control point in Ramadi when a truck began speeding toward them. Haerter and Yale stepped into the truck's path and began firing, a move that ultimately stopped the truck a few feet from their position.

The driver of the truck detonated its contents--about 2,000 pounds of explosives--leveling the entry control point and killing Haerter and Yale.

To date, 25 Navy Crosses have been awarded for exploits in Iraq and Afghanistan.

VA Budget 2010:

Budget Increase and Eligibility Expansion

President Obama's first proposed budget for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) expands eligibility for health care to an additional 500,000 deserving Veterans over the next five years, meets the need for continued growth in programs for the combat Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, and provides the resources to deliver quality health care for the Nation's 5.5 million Veteran patients.

The 2010 budget request is a significant step toward realizing a vision shared by the President and Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki to transform VA into an organization that is peoplecentric, results-driven and forward-looking.

If accepted by Congress, the President's budget proposal would increase VA's budget from \$97.7 billion this fiscal year

to \$112.8 billion for the fiscal year beginning October 1. This is in addition to the \$1.4 billion provided for VA projects in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The 2010 budget:

*Represents the first step toward increasing discretionary funding for VA efforts by \$25 billion over the next five years. The gradual expansion in health care enrollment that this would support will open hospital and clinic doors to more than 500,000 Veterans by 2013 who have been regrettably excluded from VA medical care benefits since 2003.

*Provides the resources to achieve this level of service while maintaining high quality and timely care for lower-income and service-disabled Veterans who currently rely on VA medical care.

POWs Who Died in Captivity Eligible For Purple Heart

The Department of Defense has expanded the Purple Heart eligibility criteria allowing prisoners-of-war who died in captivity to receive the award.

The revised department policy presumes, for service members who die in captivity as a qualifying prisoner-of-war, that their death was the "result of enemy action," or the result of wounds incurred

"in action with the enemy" during capture, or as a result of wounds incurred as a "result of enemy action" during capture, unless compelling evidence is presented to the contrary.



The revised policy allows retroactive award of the Purple Heart to qualifying prisoners-of-war since Dec. 7, 1941.

\Posthumous award will be made to the deceased service member's representative, as designated by the secretary of the military department concerned, upon application to that military department.

Each military department will publish application procedures and ensure they are accessible by the general public.

Family members with questions may contact the services: Army Military Awards Branch, (703) 325-8700; Navy Personnel Command, Retired Records Section, (314) 592-1150; Air Force Awards and Decorations, (210) 565-2516; Marine Corps Military Awards Branch, (703) 784-9340.



COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines.

It's that time of the year Marines. Spring is almost upon us and as you know, this is the time of the year that we start getting busy. We had the Detachment elections and the slate of officers to be installed is the same as last year except for current Judge Advocate Jim McComb and Senior Vice Commandant Bill Mickelson. Jim will be our new Senior Vice Commandant and Bill will be our new Judge Advocate. I would like to thank those who again have offered their service to the Detachment. We



CENTRAL BUCKS
DETACHMENT, Inc. #636
P. O. Box 1372
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372
Meets
7:30 p.m.
2nd Wednesday of Month
American Legion Post 210
315 North Street, Doylestown, PA

<u>Sr. VICE COMMANDANT</u> WILLIAM L. MICKELSON

Jr. VICE COMMANDANT BEN JONES

ADJUTANT-PAYMASTER
DON H. GEE, PC

JUDGE ADVOCATE
JAMES McCOMB

QUARTERMASTERCOREY A. FISHER

<u>CHAPLAIN</u> ELLIS M. (BUDD) PEARCE, PC

> <u>SERGEANT-AT-ARMS</u> BOB SUNDLING, PC

<u>MESS SERGEANT</u> VINCENT J. HAGAN

<u>WEB SERGEANT</u> JOSEPH F. DOHERTY couldn't do it without those who selflessly give of their time and talents to serve the Detachment and the League.

Our April meeting will be the installation of officers meeting and I hope everyone that can attend will do so. Those attending should also wear their Marine Corps League casual uniform that includes the red blazer, if they have one.

As for myself, I attended my first National Mid-Winter Meeting and MODD Growl in Falls Church, VA, in February. It was a very informative meeting and there are a lot of new things that will be coming from the League.

There are plenty of upcoming events that we will need help with. Our quarterly highway cleanup will be on April 11. As usual we will meet at "Back to 50's" diner on the corner of Route 263 and Edison-Furlong Road at 8 a.m., so come on out and lend a hand. Also, A-Day is just around the corner on April 25-26. **Past Commandant Budd**

Pearce heads up this committee so if anyone would like to volunteer to help, please contact Budd.

The Youth Scholarship Raffle tickets are still available. If you need more please contact **Junior Vice Commandant Ben Jones**. Remember that the Detachment get's a cut of the proceeds for every ticket sold.

Once again we will be doing our Memorial Day weekend fundraiser at the State Store in Doylestown followed by our participation in the parade. If you can volunteer for any of these activities, please contact Budd or me.

Again, my sincere thanks to those who step up and continue to support our Detachment.

Semper Fi,



STATE OFFERS GULF WAR BONUS

FT. INDIANTOWN GAP--Pennsylvania recognizes the service of its Gulf War veterans--as well as certain surviving family members--through a bonus program officially launched on Apr. 4, 2008.

The state's Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Bonus provides a one-tome benefit for everyone who:

- * served with the U. S. Armed Forces, a reserve component of the U. S. Armed Forces or the Pennsylvania National Guard:
- * served on active duty in the Persian Gulf theater of operations during the period from Aug. 2, 1990, until Aug. 31, 1991, and received the Southwest Asia Service Medal; and
- * was a legal resident of Pennsylvania at the time of active service.

Eligible veterans qualify for payment of \$75 per month--up to \$525--for each month of active serve in the Gulf War theater. An additional benefit of \$5,000 may be awarded if the veteran was de-

clared a prisoner of war at any time during the period of qualifying service or died in active service as a result of service-connected injury or disease. In the case of deceased veterans, payments go to the surviving spouse, children or parents, in that order.

An estimated 32,000 military personnel from Pennsylvania served on active duty in the Gulf War theater. The Gulf War bonus mirrors similar initiatives undertaken in previous decades on behalf of Pennsylvania's World War II, Korea and Vietnam veterans. The program is administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Individuals who received a bonus or similar compensation from any other state are not eligible for the Pennsylvania program. The deadline for applying for benefits is Aug. 31, 2015.

For detailed instructions on how to apply, visit

www.persiangulfbonus.state.pa.us.

MARCH DETACHMENT MEETING



The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held March 11, 2009, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post, 510 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 20 members present including all officers. Distinguished members in attendance included Past Commandants Don Gee, Budd Pearce, and Bob Sundling; Past Department of New Jersey Commandant Ed Hoth; Past Commandant & Department Northeast Division Vice Commandant Bill Miller; and Marine of the Year Jim McComb.

The Minutes of the February Meeting were unanimously accepted.

The Paymaster's Report was presented by the Adjutant/Paymaster and was unanimously accepted.

Sick Call: Mess Sergeant Vince Hagen is still undergoing therapy for hip surgery.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Jim Powell reported the Detachment's March *Listen Up!* newsletter was sent electronically to those members whom had provided e-mail addresses and that future issues will be sent by e-mail. Those members who do not have access to the internet will continue to receive their newsletters by surface mail. He also reported he had attended the National Mid-Winter Staff Meeting, Feb. 14-15, in Falls Church, VA. He announced the Detachment website contains the past year's *Listen Up!* issues and will have each new issue posted as it is published. He noted the website would contain the names and e-mails addresses of Detachment members. He also mentioned passwords were being developed so members could access information on the website. He reiterated the Young Marines will celebrate their 50th Anniversary on Apr. 24-25 in Waterbury, CT.

Senior Vice Commandant Bill Mickelson reported the Detachment strength at 57 members including 28 Life Members, 24 Regular Members, 4 Associate Members and 1 Honorary Life Member. There are two members delinquent and three members on active duty.

Junior Vice Commandant Ben Jones reminded the members about the Department's raffle and stated he had more tickets available for anyone who needed more of them. He also reminded, the more raffle tickets the Detachment sells the more money the Detachment makes.

Judge Advocate Jim McComb reported the Detachment had no legal problems.

The Adjutant/Paymaster reported the Detachment had received an e-mail letter from Marine Corps League Headquarters recommending Marine Corps Leaguers write to their Senators to support the redesignation of the Department of the Navy to the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps (Senate Bill S.504).

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC, reported the Color Guard had not been requested since the last meeting.

Chaplain Budd Pearce, PC, reported his services were available but not needed since the last meeting.

The Public Relations Officer set Mar. 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the April issue of "*Listen Up!*" He further requested members whose e-mail addresses had not been given him provide them so the April issue could be transmitted electronically.

Quartermaster Corey Fisher reported sales of \$17 during February and reminded the members to contact him for any items they need.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Budd Pearce reported the next highway clean-up will be on Saturday, April 11. **Rifle & Pistol Team Captain Budd Pearce** reported the Pistol Match will take place June 5-6. The Detachment will have a four-man team competing.

NEW BUSINESS

Junior Past Commandant Bill Miller conducted the Detachment Election. Elected to office were Commandant Jim Powell, Senior Vice Commandant Jim McComb, Junior Vice Commandant Ben Jones, Judge Advocate Bill Mickelson, and Adjutant-Paymaster Don Gee. Installation will take place at the April Meeting.

The Adjutant/Paymaster made a motion the Detachment donate \$200.00 to the United Veterans of Doylestown Memorial Day Parade. Motion passed unanimously.

Senior Vice Commandant Mickelson made a motion to donate \$100.00 (amended to \$25.00) to the National Purple Heart Monument Fund. Amended motion approved unanimously.

A motion was made and unanimously approved for the Detachment to take a 1/4-page ad in the Northeast Division Journal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judge Advocate McComb reported the Marine Corps had expanded the Camp Lejeune Water Contamination Register to include anyone who served at Camp Lejeune between 1957 and 1987. Contact him for information about the register. **Sergeant-at-Arms Sundling** passed on a request from the troops for DVDs. Contact him for details if you have DVDs for the "Goodies for the Troops" packages.

Marine Mike Waldron announced the Liberty Bell Chapter of the 1st Marine Division Association will be sponsoring a trip to Washington & Quantico on June 12-13. Cost is \$175.00 per person, double occupancy. Contact him for more details. He also announced there would be a "Tribute to Scottish Poet Robert Burns" on Apr. 5 at the Salem United Church of Christ, 186 E. Court St., Doylestown, beginning at 3 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 7:30 p.m. on April 8.

PATRIOT MICRO-CHIP

THE PATRIOT MICRO CHIP is intended to be implanted in terrorists. The implant is specifically designed to be installed subcutaneously in the forehead area. When properly installed it will allow the implantee to speak to Allah.

It comes in various sizes:



The exact size of the implant will be selected by a well-trained and highly-skilled technician. The implant may or may not be painless. Side effects, like headaches and nausea, are temporary. Some bleeding or swelling may occur at the injection site.

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT MARINES ON THE NET

CAPRIO, Paul	midupe@aol.com
CODY, Bob	
CUPITT, Steve	
COTTT, Steve	scupitt@motorola.com
DeBELLA, Vincent	1
DOHERTY, Joe	
GEE, Don	
HAGAN, Vincent	
HOTH, Ed	
JONES, Ben	
KELLER, Bruce	
McCOMB, Jim	
MICKELSON, Bill	
MILLER, Bill	
MURRAY, Ken	kenmur1949@yahoo.com
MOMORELLA, Bob	mombo@starlinxcom
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PARZANESE, Don, Jr	
PEARCE, Budd	
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SMITH, Gary	
SUNDLING, Bob	
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WALDRON, Mike	
WIMER, Lee	leewimer@aoi.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NATIONAL NORTHEAST DIVISION MEETING 27-28 MARCH

APRIL FOOL'S DAY 1 APRIL

> PALM SUNDAY 5 APRIL

DETACHMENT MEETING 8 APRIL

> EASTER 12 APRIL

INCOME YAX DUE 15 APRIL

MOTHERS DAY 10 MAY

DETACHMENT MEETING 13 MAY

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE 25 MAY

DETACHMENT MEETING 10 JUNE

> FLAG DAY 14 JUNE

Vietnam Veterans Benefit from Agent Orange

Vietnam Veterans may be eligible for compensation and health care for certain diseases associated with Agent Orange, the defoliant sprayed to unmask enemy hiding places in the jungles throughout Vietnam. Special health care and compensation benefits are available to the 2.6 million men and women who served that period are the largest group of veterans receiving VA health care and monthly compensation.

A small percentage of their disability claims are for illnesses that scientists have listed as being associated with Agent Orange. VA presumes that all military personnel who served in Vietnam were exposed to Agent Orange, and federal law presumes that certain illnesses are a result of that exposure. This "presumptive policy" simplifies the process of receiving compensation for these diseases since VA foregoes the normal requirements of proving that an illness began or was wors-

ened during military service.

Based on clinical research, the following diseases are on VA's Agent Orange list of presumptive disabilities:

- *acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy
- *chloracne
- *chronic lymphocytic leukemia
- *Hodgkin's disease
- *multiple myeloma
- *non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- *porphyria cutanea tarda
- *prostate cancer
- *respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx and trachea)
- *soft-tissue sarcoma, acute
- *Type II diabetes mellitus

In addition, monetary benefits, health care and vocational rehabilitation services are provided to Vietnam veterans' offspring with spina bifida, a congenital birth defect of the spine. Children of female veterans who served in Vietnam are authorized health care and monetary benefits for certain additional birth defects.

Veterans who served in Vietnam during the war also are eligible for a complete physical examination. If a VA physician suspects a disease might be related to Agent Orange, VA will provide free medical care. Those who participate in the examination program become part of an Agent Orange Registry and receive periodic mailings from VA about the latest Agent Orange studies and new diseases being covered under VA policies.

Vietnam veterans and their families can contact VA for more information about these benefits. For the Agent Orange Registry physical examination, call your local VA hospital or clinic. To file a compensation claim for a current disability related to Agent Orange, veterans can call 1-800-827-1000 for an application form or visit VA's web site at http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov.

STUNNING SENIOR MOMENT

A very self-important college freshman attending a recent football game took it upon himself to explain to a senior citizen sitting next to him why it was impossible for the older generation to understand his generation.

"You grew up in a different world, actually an almost primitive one," the student said, loud enough for many of those nearby to hear.

"The young people of today are much more advanced than people your age. We grew up with television, jet planes, space travel, man walking on the moon and the internet. We have cell phones, nuclear energy, electric and hydrogen cars, computers, automated manufacturing, amazing technologies, ...and," pausing to take another drink of beer.

The senior took advantage of the break in the student's litany and said, "You're right, son. We didn't have those things when we were young....so we invented them. Now, you arrogant little sh--, what are YOU doing for the next generation?'

The applause was resounding...

From World War II

WALTZING MATILDA

Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong
Under the shade of a coolibah tree,
And he sang as he watched and waited till his billy boiled,
"You'll come a-waltzing, Matilda, with me!"

Chorus: Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda You'll come a-waltzing, Matilda, with me, And he sang as he watched and waited Till his billy boiled, "You'll come a-waltzing, Matilda, with me!"

Down came a jumbuck to drink at the billabong, Up jumped the swagman and grabbed him with glee, And he sang as he stowed the jumbuck in his tucker bag, You'll come a-waltzing, Matilda, with me!

Chorus: Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda You'll come a-waltzing, Matilda, with me, And he sng as he stowed the jumbuck in his tucker bag, "You'll come a-waltzing, Matilda, with me!"

Significant Dates in MARINE CORPS HISTORY

APRIL

- 1—(1945) D-Day on Okinawa for 1st and 6th Marine Divisions.
- 2—(1944) 22nd Marines secured Majit Island inb the Marshalls.
- 3—(1847) Marines and seamen from USS Portsmouth landed and captured San Lycas, Mexico.
- 4—(1854) Marines from USS Plymouth first to land in China, at Shanghai.
- 5—(1947) Five Marines killed at Hsin Ho by Communist Chinese.
- 6—(1776) Continental Marines in USS Alfred participated in first naval engagement.
- 7—(1917) A detachment of Marines participated in the Battle of Las Canitas, Dominican Republic.
- 8—(1782) Marines participated in sea battle between USS Hyder Ally and HMS General Monk.
- 9—(1942) Battery "C", 4th Marines, surrendered with American forces on Bataan.
- (1953) Marines regained "Carson" Hill during fighting in Korea.
- 10—(1945) VMB-612 launched night attacks from Iwo Jima against Japanese coast.
- 11—(1904) An officer and 20 men became the first Marines to garrison Midway Island.
- (1992) 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC) CH-53E Super Stallions helped stem lava flow from Mount Etna, Italy.
- 12—(1975) Marines evacuated nearly 300 Americans and foreign nationals from Cambodia during Operation: EAGLE PULL.
- 13—(1847) Marines captured LaPaz., California, during Mexian War.
- 14—(1865) Marines guarded body of John Wilkes Booth after Lincoln assassination.
- 15—(1971) III Marine Amphibious Force redeployed to Okinawa after six years service in Vietnam.
- 16—(1898) Secretary of the Navy ordered Commandant Heywood to organize battalion for duty in Cuba.
- 17—(1849) Marines were aboard USS Preble when she became the first American warship to visit Okinawa.
- 18—(1799) Marine Commandant Burrows sent Marines to guard French prisoners in Pennsylvania.
- (1864) Marines joined sea battle as four U.S. ships attacked Confederate ram Albemarle near New Bern, NC.
- 19—(1778) Marines participated in capture and sinking of a British schooner by USS Ranger off the coast of Ireland.
- (1991) Company "G", 24th MEU (SOC), arrived in northern Iraq to assist Kurdish refugees.
- 20—(1861) Marines helped burn Norfolk Navy Yard to prevent Confederate seizure.
- 21—(1951) Carrier-based Marines downed three Yaks in first air-to-air contact of Marine air with North Korean Air Force.
- 22—(1778) Marines from USS Ranger landed at Whitehaven, England, with John Paul Jones.
- 23—(1914) 3d Marines participated in show of force at Vera Cruz, Mexico, after insult to American flag.
- 24—(1962) U.S. Marine helicopters (Shufly) supported 21st Army of the Republic of Vietnam Division during Operation: NIGHTINGALE near Can Tho.
- 25—(1913) Formal charter of Marine Corps Association received.
- 26—(1965) SSgt. Josephine (Davis) Gebers became first woman Marine awarded Combat Action Ribbon fir serving under enemy fire, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.
- 27—(1805) Lt. Presley O'Bannon raised Stars & Stripes over Derna, Tripoli.
- 28—(1965) 3d Battalion, 6th Marines, helo-lifted from USS Boxer to secure American Embassy in Santo Domingo.
- 29—(1862) Marines raised flag symbolizing Union capture of New Orleans.
- (1975) Marine helicopters of HMH-462 and 463 and HMM-165 with Battalion Landing Team 2/4 evacuated 6,968 people from Vietnam during Operation: FREQUENT WIND.
- 30—(1969) The number of U.S. military personnel in Vietnam reached 543,300.
- (1975) NVA captured Saigon; Vietnam War ended.

Quartermaster Store

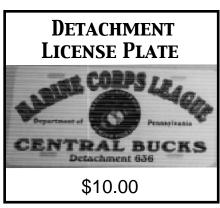














To order any of these items or any other Marine Corps League items or Marine Corps items and have them ready for pick-up at the next Detachment Meeting, contact Quartermaster COREY FISHER at

ph: 215-822-6898

e-mail: cbquartermaster@aol.com

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, Inc. P. O. Box 1372 Doylestown, PA 18901-1372

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"

Marine Corps League		(Date)
Name		
Street	City	State Zip
Date of Birth/	Date of Enlistment/Commissioning	l
Date of Discharge/Separation/Retirement _	SSN	N
Type of Application New () Renewal	() Associate () Phone ()
E-mail:		
	NTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, Marine C	
year's membership (which includes subscri	ption to MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MAG larine for more than 90 days, the character	,
if discharged, I am in receipt of an Honora	• · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	,
of Honorable Discharge/service upon reque	est.	

to: CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, P. O. Box 1372, Doylestown, PA 18901-1372